

lead one astray in the realm of medicine unless the reader is fairly conversant with the subjects he desires to study. As an outline it will serve its purpose. Further than that it can have no real value and it may be a source of trouble to the student of medicine.

W. W. B.

**Diseases of Nutrition and Infant Feeding.** By John Lovett Morse, M. D., Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School, and Fritz B. Talbot, M. D., Instructor in Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School. Cloth, 8vo. \$2.50. Published September 8th.

This book is the best presentation of infant feeding in English. In fact it would be difficult to find a more masterly treatise in any language. The literature has been gleaned for facts chemical and physical, biological and clinical, but the result is no mere compilation, as many of these facts have been contributed to the fund of knowledge by the authors, whose erudition and experience enables them to deal critically with the vast mass of material the literature provides, to bring it into reasonable compass, to give unity to the valuable, and to reject the unworthy with clear authority. Talbot, who is responsible for those parts of the book that deal with metabolism and the physiology underlying the theory of feeding, is to be congratulated on having dealt with his subject informingly and so clearly that every chapter holds the reader's interest.

The lucid style, the simple and forceful directions in the sections that deal with the practice of feeding and the treatment of nutritional disorders, brings the unexcelled teaching of Morse from the narrow confines of the class room to the needs of the larger body of students in active practice.

The authors are to be congratulated on the matter as well as the manner of this book, which is one that neither medical student nor practitioner can afford to be without.

L. P.

**Operative Gynecology.** By Harry Sturgeon Crossen, M. D., F. A. C. S. Published by C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, 1915.

In this volume Dr Crossen has presented a work of great merit which is valuable to both the gynecologist and general surgeon. He states in the preface that he wishes to present the adaptation of a particular method of operation to suitable cases and in his discussions he gives a rational view of the indicated operation as called for by the underlying pathology. The illustrations, 770 in number, are particularly noteworthy as they clearly depict details of technic which aid in elucidating the text which is also clearly and concisely expressed. The chapter on retrodisplacement of the uterus ends with a well drawn discussion on indications calling for one or another of the accepted operations based on the pathology present in the pelvis. Likewise the chapter on prolapse of the uterus and bladder after a clear presentation of the operative technic sums up the indications for the special procedure advisable based on pathology and the period of life of the woman. The chapter on fibro-myoma is well handled, but that on carcinoma of the cervix deserves special consideration as it gives a fuller and clearer description of the radical operation as advanced by Wertheim and his co-workers than any other book, especially in reference to the technic of ureteral management. Pelvic inflammation is treated in an interesting manner and gives the modern views on its management. A considerable space has been devoted to auto and heterotransplantation of ovaries and gives an exhaustive report of the experiments and literature on that theme. The concluding chapters on abdominal section and general technic contain good

suggestions which repay their perusal and the medico-legal reports are in keeping with the remainder of the work in interest and value. The whole book is compiled with great care and is a valuable addition to one's library as well as repaying one for the time spent in its careful reading.

L. H. H.

**A Text Book of Surgery for Students and Practitioners.** By George Emerson Brewer, A. M., M. D., Professor of Surgery, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York; Surgical Director, Presbyterian Hospital; Consulting Surgeon, Roosevelt Hospital, assisted by Adrian V. S. Lambert, M. D., Associate Professor of Surgery, Columbia University; Attending Surgeon, Presbyterian Hospital; and by members of the surgical teaching staff of Columbia University. Third edition, thoroughly revised and rewritten. Octavo, 1027 pages, with 500 engravings and 23 plates in colors and monochrome. Cloth, net, \$5.50. Lea & Febiger, Publishers, Philadelphia and New York, 1915.

This third edition has been thoroughly revised. Every chapter has been rewritten. Some new ones have been added. Radical changes have been made in the chapters on infections of the hand, diseases of the joints and goiter.

The author has received able assistance from his colleagues on the Surgical Staff of Columbia University. For this work they have been fully accredited.

The old conventional illustrations so often seen in books of this kind are conspicuous by their absence. There are 500 engravings and 23 colored plates which are well chosen. Most of these are taken from the author's own cases. There are a few that would be more valuable with an explanatory note. But in general the idea to be conveyed is so evident that the picture speaks for itself.

The chapter dealing with infections of the hand is especially worthy of comment. Here the anatomy, symptoms and treatment of infection are so clearly set forth that the reader has a helpful guide in one of the most difficult surgical problems.

There are a few typographical errors as "Intracheally" for Intratracheally, but these are of minor importance.

Throughout the style is clear and concise. A proper balance has been maintained. So the book is very readable. The author is to be congratulated for gathering so much information in so small a space. No important points are neglected, nor is the book burdened with unnecessary details. The promise for a single volume text book for students and practitioners has been fulfilled.

J. P. P.

**Pathogenic Micro-organisms.** (Including Bacteria and Protozoa.) A Practical Manual for Students, Physicians and Health Officers. By William H. Park, M. D., Professor of Bacteriology and Hygiene in the University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College, and Director of the Bureau of Laboratories of the Department of Health, New York City, and Anna W. Williams, M. D., Assistant Director of the Bureau of Laboratories, New York City; Consulting Pathologist to the New York Infirmary for Women and Children. New (5th) edition, thoroughly revised. Octavo, 684 pages, with 210 illustrations and 9 full-page plates. Cloth, \$4.00 net. Lea & Febiger, Publishers, Philadelphia and New York, 1914.

It is not surprising that the authors of this book, who have for years directed the many activities of the Bureau of Laboratories of the Department of Health of New York City, should view the subject of Microbiology from the standpoint of application rather than from that of sys-

tematic description and classification, and it is their treatment of the subject from this point of view that makes this work distinctive, and particularly adapted as a text for the physician and those concerned in public health work. Since however a work of this scope often serves as a point of departure for a more detailed study of some particular subject, it seems to the reviewer, that the meagerness of bibliography impairs its value somewhat.

One finds the usual chapters devoted to general discussion of microbiology, bacteriological methods and infection and immunity, which are quite comprehensive considering the space allotted to their treatment. In the latter subjects controversy has been avoided. While this gives to the subject of immunity an unwarranted appearance of definiteness and simplicity, the desired end of "practical application" is served by not clouding the issue.

In the section dealing with the various pathogenic micro-organisms a number of the chapters deserve mention because of the authority with which the authors speak. Particularly good are those on Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, the Colontyphoid group, Amœba, and Rabies. The final section devoted to the bacteriology of water, air, milk and soil; the purification of water; disposal of sewage; disinfection, etc., etc., is full of matter useful for the physician and is an excellent compendium on the subject, for health officers.

The book is well printed and contains not enough typographical errors to call for criticism.

H. E. F.

**Syphilis as a Modern Problem.** By William Allen Pusey, M. D.; Professor of Dermatology in the University of Illinois. Price, cloth, 50 cents; paper, 25 cents. Pp. 129. Chicago: American Medical Association, 1915.

The following review appeared in *The Journal of the American Medical Association* for Sept. 18, 1915, p. 1051.

This book is a monograph reprinted from the Commemoration Volume issued by the American Medical Association "as a tribute to the medical sciences which made possible the building of the Panama Canal and the Panama Pacific Exposition."

The publication of this discussion of the present status of one of the so-called three great plagues—syphilis, tuberculosis and cancer—is opportune. Two decades ago tuberculosis, the fellow of syphilis in this triad of diseases, was as little understood by the everyday man as syphilis is to-day. In the comparatively brief interval of twenty years, a campaign of education and organized propaganda for the combating of consumption has transformed the situation. The forces of intelligent public opinion and of public and private funds, and the power of disinterested men and women have brought into being a great system of physical and educational aids for the tuberculous which have begun to realize their full possibilities. Against cancer our ignorance limits our capacity for effective control. Yet even in the case of cancer there are large endowments for study, and a consistent campaign for the better education of the public is under way.

Against syphilis, on the other hand, little or no social headway has been made. The confounding of the sanitary aspects of a communicable disease with questions of morals, and the effects of a traditional prudery have stifled advance in the social control of this disease. The United States is conspicuous in this backwardness. In strange contrast with this situation, medical knowledge of syphilis has advanced in the last decade with unparalleled rapidity. At the present time it is safe to rank the strategic position in regard to its sanitary control as equal to that for the control of malaria and yellow fever. In one direction, medicine holds syphilis in the hollow of its hand; two generations of intelligent attack could see it

reduced to the status of a sporadic infection. In the other direction, the unwillingness to act of the public, on whom help depends, has prevented all organized effort for the control of this disease. Syphilis is a sanitary problem, that it must and will be solved by society sooner or later is inevitable. Its importance cannot be exaggerated! It breeds misery and perpetuates it. It is a source of public cost, a drain on human efficiency, and a stumbling block in the progress of mortality and decency whose all-pervading influence is appreciated only by those who work with it all the time. Into this situation, Dr. Pusey's book projects itself with a peculiar force. It considers syphilis from the standpoint of its effect on society; not as a disease which medicine is called on to treat. The whole subject is broadly sketched; its course and its pathology are given in sufficient detail to allow the reader to get a mental picture of the disease. Preceding this there are three chapters on the history of syphilis, the most complete statement of this subject in English, which furnishes a unique historical perspective. The rest of the book concerns the study of the general problems of syphilis; the prognosis of syphilis; syphilis and marriage; the etiology of syphilis, and the prophylaxis of syphilis. In these chapters, such subjects as the relative frequency of tabs and paresis, the effect of syphilis on length of life, the time when the syphilitic may marry, the prevalence of syphilis, its comparative frequency in men and women, the question as to whether or not syphilis is on the increase, and syphilis and prostitution are considered. The whole book is a foundation for the last chapter—the prophylaxis of syphilis. Here the author shows how syphilology has finally arrived at a point where the prevention of syphilis is practicable by sanitary measures. He points out what these measures are, and so furnishes the strongest argument for the inauguration of an organized sanitary attack on this disease.

The work is eminently sane and without sensationalism or exaggeration. It does not affront with needless horrors, nor is it written in the spell-binding style of campaign literature. The book is fitted to serve as a guide to a sustained and effective interest in the problem on the part of intelligent readers. It is not a medical text-book, nor is it a primer. It is intended for the intelligent lay reader, but it may be read with equal profit by the intelligent physician. It considers syphilis from a detached point of view, from which point the physician ordinarily does not think of it. It is filled with facts which are carried through to legitimate conclusions, and from which are deduced practical suggestions, and is worthy of the thoughtful consideration of intelligent men and women.

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